

## Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

SAJ-01 ACDA-19 AID-20 NEA-10 EUR-25 RSR-01 /178 W

----- 009457

R 041610Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4733

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

US MISSION USUN NEW YORK 262

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 2786

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS0 UN, CU, CS

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MWNISTER COMMENTS ON OAS

RESTRUCTURING, CUBA AND GOCR

BID FOR SC SEAT.

1. DURING LONG CONVERSATION THIS MORNING WITH  
FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO HE MADE FOLLOWING  
COMMENTS RE OAS RESTRUCTURING, CUBA QUESTION  
AND SC SEATING.

2. OAS RESTRUCTURING. FACIO SAID AMBASSADOR  
LOPEZ WOULD HEAD COSTA RICAN DELEGATION IN  
SEPTEMBER SESSION ON OAS RESTRUCTURING. FACIO  
SAID THAT COSTA RICA OPPOSED ANY SUBSTATANTIAL  
WEAKENING OF RIO TREATY OR COLLECTIVE SECURITY/  
PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES SYSTEM, BECAUSE  
AS LITTLE COUNTRY WITHOUT ANY ARMY IT DEPENDED  
UPON THE TREATY FOR ITS INTERNATIONAL SECURITY;  
FOR THAT REASON HE WAS CONCERNED WITH MEXICAN  
PROPOSAL AND SPECIFICALLY WITH PROVISION  
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THEREIN REQUIRING UN CONSULTATION, WHICH HE

THOUGHT WOULD IN EFFECT GUT THE AMERICAN SYSTEM. FACIO WENT ON TO SAY HE FAVORED RESTORING THE OAS COUNCIL TO PRIME POSITION WITH CIES AND CIEC BEING TECHNICAL BODIES RATHER THAN COEQUAL COUNCILS. HE SAID THAT COSTA RICA OBVIOUSLY SUPPORTED DEMOCRACY BUT THOUGHT THAT SOME AMENDMENT WAS NECESSARY OF THE CHARTER'S WORDING CALLING DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT THE BASIS OF CONSENSUS AND REASON FOR THE ORGANIZATION'S EXISTENCE, SINCE THIS WAS NOT NOW FACTUALLY CORRECT AND VITIATED THE IDEA OF IDEOLOGICAL PLURALISM. FINALLY HE SAID THAT HE OPPOSED THE IDEA OF USING THE SYSTEM TO CONFRONT THE US OR TO FORCE CONCESSION FROM IT. HE THOUGHT THERE WAS NOT RPT NO UTILITY IN PRESING THE CONCEPT OF ECONOMIC AGRESSION (ART. 16) TO TRY TO PUNISH THE US. IN REPLY I SAID THAT WE FELT TWO IMPORTANT POINTS WERE THAT THE RIO TREATY AND COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM NOT BE WEAKEND OR MARKOTOY CHANGED, AND THAT NO CONFRONTATION DEVELOP AS A RESULT OF EFFORTS TO FORCE AN ECONOMIC AGGRESSION DEFINITION ON US THAT WOULD TRY TO PUNISH US FOR DEFENDING LEGITIMATE US INTERESTS. I SAID THAT FROM WHAT I KNEW OF OUR DEVELOPING POSITIONS WE WERE VERY MUCH IN AGREEMENT, AND I SUGGESTED THAT AMBASSADOR LOPEZ KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH AMBASSADOR JOVA. COMMENT: I HAD HAD EARLIER CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR LOPEZ IN WHICH I SUGGESTED SAME THING. I BELIEVE THAT ON THESE ISSUES LOPEZ (AND FACIO) WILL BE HELPFUL AND SUPPORTIVE OF GENERAL US VIEW, AND THEREFORE URGE THAT USOAS KEEP CLOSE CONTACT WITH LOPEZ.

2. CUBA. FACIO SAID THAT THE EROSION IN OAS AUTHORITY OCCASIONED BY THE CUBAN QUESTION WORRIED HIM. THE MORE COUNTRIES ACTED UNILATERALLY TO RENEW RELATION WITH

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CUBA, IN VIOLATION OF THE OAS RESOLUTIONS, THE MORE THELMORAL FORCE OF AN RESPECT FOR THE OAS WAS DEGRADED. HE THOUGHT, HOWEVER, THAT THE QUESTION SHOULD BE TREATED OPENLY AND NOT BY BACK DOOR MANEUVERS. HE GAVE ME A COPY OF A MEMORANDUM HE HAD PREPARED WHICH HE SAID HE HAS HELD VERY CLOSE AND GIVEN ONLY TO ONE OR TWO OTHER GOVERN-

MENTS. IT POSES A "JURIDICAL" FORMULA FOR DEALING WITH THE QUESTION ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES: SUMMON A MEETING OF THE ORGAN OF CONSULTATION TO DETERMINE IF THE CONDITIONS GIVING RISE TO THE SANCTIONS VOTED BY THE NINTH MEETING OF CONSULTATION STILL EXIST, I.E., CUBAN SUBVERSION. IF THEY DO NOT THEN THE SANCTIONS ARE ILLEGAL AND IT WOULD TAKE A TWO-THIRD VOTE TO MAINTAIN THEM. HE ALSO MAINTAINS THAT THE DELEGATION BY THE NINTH MEETING TO TO THE PERMANENT COUNCIL OF COMPETENCE TO LIFT THE SANCTIONS IS ILLEGAL. FACIO EMPHASIZED TWICE THAT COSTA RICA WOULD NOT TAKE ANY INITIATIVE TO BROACH THE CUBAN QUESTION. THE MEMO MERELY OUTLINES IDEAS. HOWEVER, IF THE QUESTION IS RAISED BY OTHERS, THE IDEAS EXPRESSED IN THIS MEMO WILL BE VOICED BY THE CR DELEGATE. I REPLIED THAT WE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT ANY CHANGE IN THE SANCTIONS WAS WARRANTED, AND THAT RAISING THE ISSUE BY THE OAS WOULD RAISE A SERIOUSLY DEVISIVE ISSUE. HE ASKED THAT WE TALK FURTHER AFTER I HAD READ THE MEMO. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT'S COMMENTS ON MEMO AND SUGGESTIONS FOR REPLY TO FACIO. (COPY OF THE MEMO I RECEIVED TODAY HAD BEEN RECEIVED BY EMBASSY EARLIER THROUGH OTHER CHANNELS, AND WAS POUCHED UNDER COPY OF JUNE 28 LETTER TO DAVID LAZAR, AR/CEN.)

3. SC SEAT. FACIO SAID HE WANTED TO GIVE ME "STATUS REPORT" ON COSTA RICA'S BID  
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FOR SC SEAT (SAN JOSE 2772 NOTAL). ONLY OTHER CANDIDATE FOR LA SEAT IS JAMAICA. ACCORDING TO HIS COUNT MEXICO, PERU, TRINIDAD, BARBADOS AND GUYANA SUPPORT JAMAICA. VENEZUELA IS UNDECIDED. ALL OTHERS ARE COMMITTED TO COSTA RICA. HE HAS NO DOUBT THAT COSTA RICA WILL WIN LA CAUCUS DESIGNATION, BUT HE IS WORRIED OVER SMALL POSSIBILITY THAT ARABS AND SOME AFRICANS WILL TRY TO PERSUADE JAMAICA TO RUN ANYWAY. HE HAS SOME INFORMATION THAT ARABS MET ON THIS POINT, AND NOTED THAT ARABS DO NOT LIKE COSTA RICA BECAUSE OF ITS FRIENDLINESS TOWARDS ISRAEL.  
VAKY

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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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